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28 January 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

State Dept. review completed

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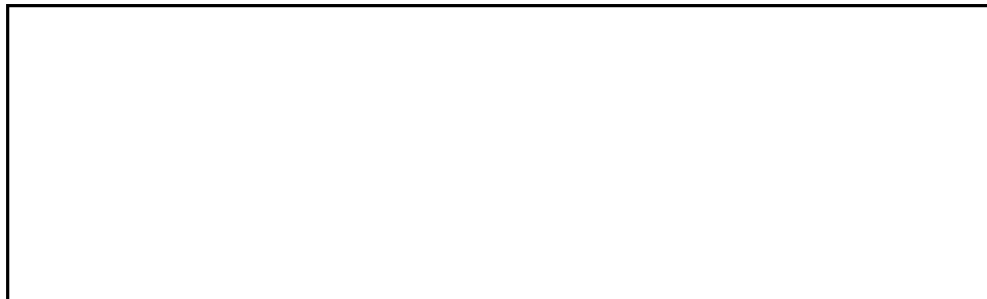
Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008100270001-2

28 January 1965

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

1. South Vietnam: The situation in Saigon and other cities is quiet following yesterday's take-over by General Khanh and the military. (Page 1)
2. Cyprus: Nicosia and Athens now uncertain about full Soviet support on Cyprus issue. (Page 2)



5. Notes: USSR [redacted] Argentina-Cuba; [redacted]
(Page 6)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

28 January 1965

*South Vietnam: The situation in Saigon and other cities is quiet following yesterday's take-over by General Khanh and the military.

The Buddhists, elated over Huong's overthrow, yesterday broadcast instructions to their followers throughout the country to cease all demonstrations. In Saigon, Tri Quang and the other four monks ended their fast.

General Khanh is working under a self-imposed deadline of about a week to set up a new government apparatus, including the 20-man civilian-military advisory council which will serve as an interim assembly. Considerable advance planning had apparently been given to the military take-over, but the details of the projected government revampment probably remain to be negotiated, with attendant risks of new frictions among interested political, religious, and military groups.

General Khanh today named Third Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Oanh to serve as acting prime minister until a new permanent government is formed. Yesterday, Khanh had told US Deputy Ambassador [redacted] Johnson that Deputy Prime Minister Vien had agreed to fill this post. Khanh also said he would ask Phan Khac Suu to stay on as chief of state until a new government is organized.

25X1

Whether the Buddhist leaders live up to their alleged agreement to refrain from political activities will depend largely on the outcome of Khanh's efforts to forge a new political synthesis. [redacted]

25X1

28 Jan 65

1

Cyprus: Concern over the Soviet Union's recently expressed position on the Cyprus issue is causing demands for changes in foreign policy in both Nicosia and Athens.

In a statement on 21 January calling for a strong centralized government on Cyprus, Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko mentioned the possibility of a federal solution, which Turkey has long advocated. This has shaken Greek Cypriot hopes for full Soviet support in the UN General Assembly.

Members of the previously silent Greek Cypriot opposition to Makarios have now become outspoken in their criticism of the government's heretofore pro-Soviet policies. Embarrassed by Gromyko's statement, the Cypriot Communist Party has announced its opposition to any solution based on a federal form of government. Turkish Cypriots, on the other hand, have received a much needed psychological boost.

Makarios appears unperturbed. He has indicated that following the General Assembly debate he may promulgate a new constitution that would reduce the existing privileges of the Turkish community. Makarios told the US Ambassador that he will not press for enosis at this time for fear of Turkish reaction, but he has repeated that union with Greece remains his final goal.

[Makarios may soon be able to point to tangible evidence of Moscow's support, when Soviet-built military equipment arrives. A small Greek freighter in Alexandria appears to have loaded for Cyprus at least one torpedo boat and two other craft which are possibly KOMAR-class guided-missile boats. This equipment apparently is covered by Soviet contracts with Cyprus.]

(continued)

Gromyko's statement also sparked an anti-Russian demonstration in Athens on 26 January. Prime Minister Papandreou's foreign policy has come under attack by normally progovernment sources as well as by the opposition.

25X1



28 Jan 65

3

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008100270001-2

Next 2 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008100270001-2

NOTES

USSR: [Moscow's designation of retired Marshal Konev to accompany Deputy Premier Rudnev to represent the USSR at Churchill's funeral appears intended to distinguish between Soviet recognition of his wartime leadership and criticism of his postwar political role. The Soviet press has praised Churchill's contribution to the victory over Nazi Germany but has attacked him as the "inspirer" of the cold war. Kosygin's official message of condolence to Wilson acknowledged Churchill's "tireless efforts during the war against Hitlerite Germany."]

25X1

28 Jan 65

6

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008100270001-2

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008100270001-2

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The United States Intelligence Board on 27 January 1965 approved the following national intelligence estimates:

NIE 11-1-65, "The Soviet Space Program."

[REDACTED]

NIE 11-9-65, "Main Trends in Soviet Foreign Policy."

[REDACTED]

28 Jan 65

8

25X1

[REDACTED]

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The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

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The Secretary of State

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The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

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The Director

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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